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Studien zur Entwicklungsgeschichte des modernen Kapitalismus.

Vol. I. *Luxus und Kapitalismus*. Vol. II. *Krieg und Kapitalismus*. By WERNER SOMBART. (Leipzig: Duncker und Humblot. 1913. Pp. viii, 220; viii, 232. 6 m. each.)

These studies are by-products of the reworking of Sombart's "Modern Capitalism." The first volume really ought to be called: "Liebe, Luxus und Kapitalismus," because it shows that through the changes in the relations between the sexes, since the period of the Crusades, the life of the ruling classes has taken on new forms, and these new forms have had a decided influence on the development of the modern economic system. In the first four chapters, Sombart discusses the growth of luxury and the secularization of love—"der Sieg des Weibchen." The wives eagerly imitated the mistresses in their expensive tastes; buildings were erected in unexampled haste, and furnished with great magnificence. "The bed was always the most costly piece of furniture." The birth of capitalism from this luxury is treated in the last and longest chapter. Almost all the important wares in international trade are shown to have been objects of luxury. The new demands also built up the silk, lace, mirror, and porcelain industries which became so important in the eighteenth century. "Thus luxury, which was, as we have seen, a legitimate child of illegitimate love, begat capitalism."

In the second volume, the question raised is, How far is capitalism the result of war? Sombart shows that military preparations have developed capital and aided the capitalistic system. Since the modern armies came into existence (in the fifteenth century), provisions, weapons, and clothing have had to be provided by the state in enormous quantities and with great rapidity. Weapons and clothing were standardized; consequently contractors were employed to provide these goods for which the state paid with money raised either from taxation or borrowing. The creditors and the contractors both became wealthy, amassing large capital. In the preparation of weapons of common calibre, especially cannon, the individual master-workmen were superseded by the capitalistic form of industry; the same was true in the manufacturing of uniforms. For the fleets, large capital was needed even earlier than in the case of the army, as the ships had to be built and provisioned for a long period.

This necessarily brief statement does not do justice to these volumes, which follow out each subject in the greatest detail and

are filled with pregnant, thought-provoking statements; *e.g.*, "Puritan, military and capitalistic virtues are to a great extent identical."

Sombart argues that the occupations in which weapons were produced were the first to take on a capitalistic form, and that the idea of the cartel first emerged in the sphere of industry which was producing for the army. He thinks that possibly the most far-reaching effect which the growing demand for weapons exercised upon the economic life was in the impetus given to the manufacturing and trade in copper, tin, and especially iron; that the use of the blast furnace was caused by the increasingly rapid demand for cannon. Probably he would not insist upon his statements that the use of coal in place of wood, or the coke process in the preparation of iron ore, were wholly the outcome of the demands of war.

This last point leads to a criticism: Sombart is fond of over-statement; *e.g.*, "Ohne den Krieg wäre er [Kapitalismus] überhaupt nicht da" (vol. II, p. 11). In volume I, he mentions grain and copper as the only two articles of international trade which were not luxuries (p. 151). In volume II, he discusses other wares which were important in international trade. In fact, the two volumes should be read together, because, as these two illustrations show, statements in one volume might be misleading if not controlled by statements in the other. The selection and use of the material is not always beyond criticism from the standpoint of historical method; but it is refreshing to find in such a study a frank recognition of the fact that the economic interpretation of history is no more false and no more true than any other single point of view in the interpretation of history.

The bibliographical notes are excellent, and show a remarkable range of reading. If the author had carried his study a little farther back, he would have cited the payments for the fleet of Richard I in 1190 and the contract made by the crusaders with Venice in 1201. The Doge's speech in connection with the latter would be especially useful for his main thesis. A knowledge of this earlier period would have prevented some slight slips, such as regarding pepper as a luxury throughout the Middle Ages, used only by the wealthy. Our main surprise, however, is that he missed so little important material. The volumes, especially the second, will be useful to historical students because of the remarkable collection of statistics, although the sources must be criticized before any data can be used.

All of Sombart's writing is suggestive, and these volumes are especially provocative of thought, because of their originality which frequently challenges traditional points of view.

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NEW BOOKS

ANDREWS, C. M. *The colonial period.* Home university of modern knowledge, 47. (New York: Holt. 1912. Pp. vii, 256. 50c.)

An excellent brief account of our colonial development. Two chapters involve a consideration of economic factors. One describes economic life and influence, but it is interpolated and not closely related with the narrative of political events. The chapter on the navigation acts and British control is superior in this respect, and the author concludes that "the measure of British colonial control can be determined only in terms that are largely economic and financial."

E. L. B.

BORGUS, W. *Wegweiser durch die Wirtschaftsverhältnisse des Königreich Ungarn.* Volkswirtschaftliche Reiseführer, 1. (Berlin: Welt-Reise Verlag. 1913. Pp. 60. 1 m.)

CARON, P. *Bibliographie des travaux publiés de 1866 à 1897 sur l'histoire de la France depuis 1789.* (Paris: Cornély. 1912. Pp. xxxix, 831.)

In this excellent bibliography, including not merely titles but also references to the reviews of the important works, numbers 11,186 to 12,796 (pp. 579-656) are devoted to economic and social history. A current bibliography in continuation is now published in connection with the "Revue d'Histoire Moderne et Contemporaine."

C. D.

DARMSTAEDTER, P. *Geschichte der Aufteilung und Kolonisation Afrikas seit dem Zeitalter der Entdeckungen.* (Berlin: G. J. Göschen. 1913. Pp. viii, 320. 7.50 m.)

FENGLER, O. *Die Wirtschaftspolitik Turgots und seiner Zeitgenossen.* (Leipzig: N. Deichert. 1913. Pp. xiii, 141. 3 m.)

FRELUP, R. *L'expansion économique française au Maroc.* (Paris: Rivière. 1913. 4 fr.)

HANOTAUX, G. *La France vivante en Amérique du Nord.* (Paris: Hachette. 1913. Pp. 263. 3.50 fr.)

Composed in large part of addresses which the author made as a member of the Champlain mission of 1912, this volume is marked by graceful expression of sentiments and ideals, and will doubtless contribute to the development of cordial relations between France and the United States as it is meant to do. The author expressly disclaims the economic point of view.

C. D.